

Senate File 2142 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2142

BY RAGAN, JOCHUM, MATHIS, and
PETERSEN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to reimbursement for dually eligible Medicare
2 and Medicaid beneficiaries receiving the Medicare hospice
3 benefit in a nursing facility.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 facility, the individual's room and board are not covered by
2 Medicare and the individual or a third-party payor must pay for
3 the costs of the room and board. For those individuals dually
4 eligible for Medicare and Medicaid who elect the Medicare
5 hospice benefit, Medicare is financially responsible for the
6 hospice care and the Medicaid program is the third-party payor
7 responsible for the nursing facility room and board expense.
8 For the nursing facility room and board care, the Medicaid
9 program must provide for payment in an amount equal to at
10 least 95 percent of the Medicaid daily nursing facility rate
11 (the rate the state Medicaid program pays for nursing facility
12 services furnished to an individual who has not elected to
13 receive hospice care). Historically, the Medicaid program
14 has paid the hospice provider for the nursing facility room
15 and board expenses of dually eligible individuals who elect
16 the hospice benefit, and the hospice provider has then passed
17 through this payment to the nursing facility. The bill would
18 require DHS to pursue options to instead allow Medicaid managed
19 care organizations to pay the nursing facility directly for
20 the nursing facility room and board costs, and eliminate the
21 pass-through payment utilizing the hospice provider.